

## ABSTRACT

An image forming apparatus and method supervising system includes a plurality of data communication apparatuses connecting at least one image forming apparatuses and a central control apparatus through a plurality of data communication apparatuses via a communication line. The image forming apparatus supervising system supervises the image forming apparatuses with the central control apparatus via the communication line and the data communication apparatus. A usage information transmitting device transmits usage information such as for example the total number of image formed sheets to the central control apparatus. An apparatus list generating device generates an apparatus list indicating which image forming apparatuses or data communication apparatuses have usage information to be transmitted. A first obtaining operation executing device obtains the usage information. A confirming device confirms at least one data communication or image forming apparatus with not-yet-obtained usage information. A not-yet-obtained list generating device generates a not-yet-obtained list indicating that at least one data communication and image forming apparatus has not-yet-obtained usage information. Further, a second obtaining operation executing device obtains usage information from those apparatuses having not-yet-obtained usage information (i.e usage information which did not transmit usage data during the first obtaining operation).